

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions. Please amend the claims as follows.

Listing of Claims:

1-21. *(Canceled)*

22. *(New)* A tool holder for holding elongated knitting tools, the knitting tools being for use in a knitting machine, the tool holder comprising:

a transport rail extending longitudinally, the transport rail including
a back portion;

a plurality of first clamping legs extending at an angle from
longitudinally extending edges of the back portion and being adapted to hold the knitting
tools; and

a plurality of slots disposed along each of the clamping legs, the
slots being adapted to transversely receive the knitting tools and being further adapted to
retain the knitting tools by frictional engagement,

wherein the slots are spaced relative to one another so as to define a
pitch adapted to match a predetermined pitch defined by a plurality of needle channels in the
knitting machine.

23. *(New)* The tool holder of claim 22, wherein the plurality of first clamping legs
are adapted to hold together at least two parts of each of the knitting tools.

24. *(New)* The tool holder of claim 22, wherein the first clamping legs are
disposed parallel to and spaced apart from one another.

25. *(New)* The tool holder of claim 22, wherein the first clamping legs are

resilient.

26. *(New)* The tool holder of claim 22, wherein at least one of the first clamping legs has a portion that diverges away from the other first clamping leg.

27. *(New)* The tool holder of claim 26, wherein the diverging portion of the at least one first clamping leg defines an obtuse angle with the other first clamping leg.

28. *(New)* The tool holder of claim 26, wherein the plurality of slots are entirely disposed on in the diverging portion.

29. *(New)* The tool holder of claim 22, wherein the transport rail is one piece.

30. *(New)* The tool holder of claim 22, wherein the transport rail is plastic.

31. *(New)* The tool holder of claim 30, wherein the plastic transport rail has a uniform wall thickness.

32. *(New)* The tool holder of claim 22, wherein the transport rail is flexible.

33. *(New)* The tool holder of claim 22, further comprising a closure part adapted to fit over the transport rail.

34. *(New)* The tool holder of claim 22, wherein the plurality of slots on one of the plurality of clamping legs have lengths that differ from the lengths of the plurality of slots on

the other clamping leg.

35. *(New)* A shipping unit having a tool holder according to claim 22, wherein the knitting tools are inserted into the plurality of slots.

36. *(New)* The shipping unit of claim 35, further comprising a casing.

37. *(New)* A tool holder for holding elongated knitting tools, comprising:
a transport rail extending longitudinally, the transport rail including
a back portion;
a plurality of first clamping legs extending at an angle from
longitudinally extending edges of the back portion and being adapted to hold together at least
two parts of each of the knitting tools; and
a plurality of slots disposed along each of the clamping legs, the
slots being adapted to transversely receive the knitting tools and being further adapted to
retain the knitting tools by frictional engagement; and
a closure part having a plurality of second clamping legs adapted to
abut the first clamping legs of the transport rail.

38. *(New)* The tool holder of claim 37, wherein the first clamping legs of the transport rail include first end portions having an outer spacing from one another, and the second clamping legs of the closure part include second end portions having an inner spacing from one another, the inner spacing of the second clamping legs of the closure part being less than the outer spacing of the first clamping legs of the transport rail.